# **New York State Department of Environmental Conservation**

**Division of Solid and Hazardous Materials** 

Bureau of Hazardous Waste and Radiation Management, 9th Floor

625 Broadway, Albany, New York 12233-7255 **Phone:** (518) 402-8579 • **FAX:** (518) 402-8646

Website: www.dec.ny.gov



#### FIELD INVESTIGATION REPORT

Site Name: 9524 and 9540 Niagara Falls Boulevard, Niagara Falls, Niagara County

Holy Trinity Cemetery, Niagara Falls, Niagara County

Date(s) of Visit: February 21, 2008

Site Contact Name and Title: Exemption 7(C), Owner, Rapids Bowl 9540 NFB

NYSDEC Staff: Jerry Riggi and John Frisone

## **Reason for Investigation:**

To obtain samples of slag for elemental analysis.

### **Discussion and Survey Results:**

NYSDEC staff arrived at 9524 and 9540 Niagara Falls Boulevard (NFB) at 1120 on Thursday, February 21, 2008. We utilized an Identifinder and a RadEye PRD to locate the slag with elevated readings. Two slag samples were taken from the fenced area behind the Dunn Tire property at 9524 NFB, while a third slag sample was taken from directly behind the fenced area. Contact readings on each individual sample ranged from 80-100 uR/hr.

Additional piles of debris have found their way to the area between the Dunn Tire rear lot and the fenced area. This area had previously been cleared of debris by the owner of the Dunn Tire property. It is unclear who the responsible party may be, but it is entirely possible the debris was blown there by the prevailing wind from Rapids Bowl as it is undergoing extensive interior and exterior renovations.

Staff met with the owner of Rapids Bowl, Exemption 7(C) and was told of the reason for the visit. Exemption 7(C) explained his intent to extend the eaves over the front entrance which would entail drilling two 12" diameter holes to a depth of four feet. The need for rad monitoring during this operation was explained and the possibility he may need to hire a rad contractor to oversee the work. During the course of our discussion, he showed an area in the front of the building where the window was removed to install an additional doorway. There is a raised flower bed which runs the entire length of the front of the building. The bed is approximately sixteen inches above

the asphalt surface and extends four feet from the front of the building. A six foot wide area was excavated to just below the asphalt which is about four inches below the top of the footer. The material from the flower bed was piled on either side of the excavation on top of the existing flower bed. Leonard assured that the blacktop was not disturbed nor had any material left the site. It appears there are two, possibly three, layers of asphalt in the front parking lot and it appears the flower bed was built to fill the gap between the building and the parking lot.

A quick scan of the piles with the exploranium yielded a piece of slag reading 75 uR/hr. The slag was taken by staff as an additional sample to be sent for analysis. No additional pieces of slag were found but elevated readings were evident. A more thorough survey, utilizing different instrumentation may be necessary.

We left 9540 NFB and proceeded to the Holy Trinity Cemetery to obtain a slag sample(s). The caretaker was not present. Two samples were collected from the proposed road bed.

## Conclusions:

New York State Department of Health will be contacted to inform them of the findings and coordinate a return visit to perform a thorough survey of the excavated area. Samples collected will be prepared, packaged and shipped to a contract lab for elemental analysis.

#### Instrumentation:

Identifinder #3574-0251, cal date: 01/02/2007 RadEye PRD #NYS2007-REPRD-00470

Reporting Specialist: Jerry Riggi

Signature (

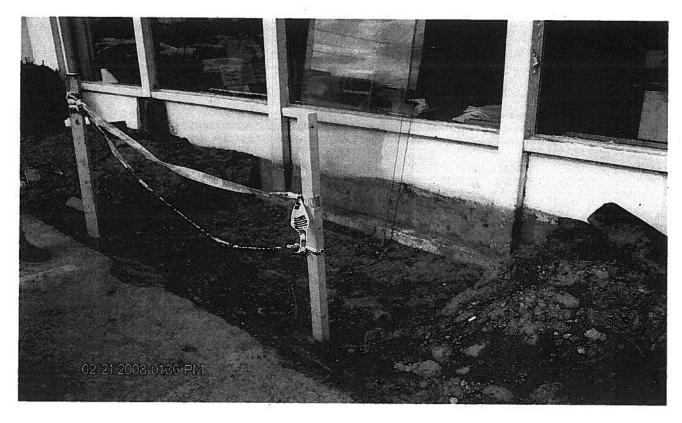
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Reviewed by:

Date:

**Attachments:** 

**Photos** 



Excavation in front of proposed doorway at Rapids Bowl, 9540 NFB.



Front of Rapids Bowl showing the flower bed looking east towards Dunn Tire.

Page 3